

Applicant : Christopher W. Smith
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Attorney's Docket No.: 05542-423001 / 4399/CMP

REMARKS

In reply to the Office Action of June 30, 2004, applicant submits the following remarks. Claims 1, 2, 5 and 12 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-28 are now pending after entry of this amendment. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Section 112 Rejections

Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner found that there was no method step recited in the claims that is capable of performing the chemical aspect of the polishing. A step of supplying a polishing liquid to a polishing article, wherein the polishing liquid includes at least one chemically-reactive agent, has been added to each of claims 1, 2, 5 and 12. The applicant believes this addition addresses the Examiner's rejection. Claims 3-4 depend directly from claim 2, claims 6-11 depend directly from claim 5 and claims 13-14 depend directly from claim 12. Therefore, each of the dependent claims now also include the step of supplying a polishing liquid to a polishing article.

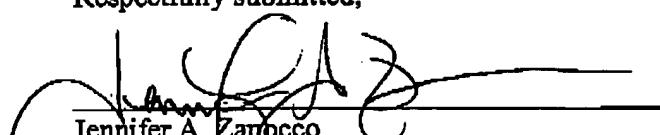
Claim 5 has been amended to correct the antecedent basis problem. Line five addresses the first platen rather than the second platen.

Please apply the One-Month Extension of Time Fee of \$110.00 and any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

Oct 1, 2004



Jennifer A. Zanocco
Reg. No. 54,563

Telephone: (650) 839-5070
Facsimile: (650) 839-5071